NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Information Letter

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No. 344 | Washington, D. C. | March 1, 1930

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STORY OF CANNED FOODS GOES ON THE AIR

Under the auspices of the National Canners Association,—using every facility of the National Broadcasting Company in a coast-to-coast program, through forty-nine broadcasting stations, covering eighty per cent of the radio-equipped homes in America,—the story of canned foods is to go on the air.

Commencing about the middle of March the entire canning industry, together with wholesalers, brokers, and retailers will be linked in a cooperative radio advertising program which will exploit the varieties, values, advantages and uses of canned foods as they have never been exploited before.

For the past several weeks a corps of writers, analysts, and broadcasting experts have been at work preparing for the coming program, arranging time, writing continuity, and intimately studying the two hundred odd foodstuffs which are cooked and sealed in tin.

This unusual and valuable radio story will be told in the practical language of the housewife, under the personal direction and sponsorship of Miss Winifred Wishard, favorite broadcaster of the American housewife, whose personal radio audience numbers into the millions and whose voice has an established welcome in millions of the radio-homes of the country.

Assisting Miss Wishard as a feature on every program will be a distinguished guest speaker, selected for his or her specialized experience, standing, and authority on the subject of canned foods, who will daily deal with an important phase of the subject.

One purpose of this canned foods broadcasting program is directly to enlighten the housewife on the extraordinary quality and healthfulness of canned foods and to provide her with special and practical suggestions on the preparation and service of canned foods in their full variety.

The secondary purpose, of course, is to offer real sales cooperation with all trade channels in the movement of canned foods in order that the educational and home service influence imparted to the housewife by way of her radio will be matched by the alertness and cooperation of every retailer who sells foods cooked and sealed in tin.

Final information on the exact features and time of the program will be forthcoming in another bulletin, to be released on or about March 5. The following information, however, may be relied upon:

The program will go on the air four mornings every week about the middle of March. The canned food period will last fifteen minutes, and will be characterized by both educational and direct selling elements. It will be introduced by the ablest announcer procurable and sustained by special continuity involving the personality of Miss Wishard and the daily guest speaker who working with Miss Wishard in dialogue, or separately in appropriate talk, will each day cover some special educational phase of the canned food subject. Each day Miss Wishard will herself terminate the program with five minutes devoted to the modern uses and advantages of canned foods in the home.

Being the first program of its kind ever offered over the air and going as it does into millions of American homes with the full story of canned foods as modern science has perfected them, this program bespeaks and deserves the cooperation and lively interest of every food distributor, salesman, and storekeeper.

As an added measure of cooperation the program will be supported by the publication of a double-page announcement in the Saturday Evening Post to appear during the second week in April, describing the program and further directing attention of the public to its unusual and valuable character.

The program will be further supported by bulletined information to all trade, chain, and independent store organizations.

BROADCASTING SUMMARY

1. It is planned to use the facilities and stations of the National Broadcasting Company.

2. East of the Rocky Mountains the program will broadcast over what is known as the Red Network, which embraces the most complete and concentrated radio coverage available, through twenty stations, as follows:

New York
Boston
Hartford
Providence
Worcester
Portland
Philadelphia
Washington
Schenectady
Buffalo
Pittsburgh
Cleveland
Detroit
Cincinnati
Chicago
St. Louis
Davenport
Des Moines
Omaha
Kansas City

3. Supplementing the Red Network and completing our national coverage we will also use the following networks:

Northwest Group
Minneapolis-St. Paul
Milwaukee
Duluth-Superior

Southeastern Group
Richmond
Charlotte
Raleigh
Jacksonville
Miami

South Central Group
Louisville
Nashville
Memphis
Atlanta
Birmingham
New Orleans

Southwestern Group
Tulsa
Oklahoma City
Hot Springs
Dallas-Fort Worth
Houston
San Antonio

Pacific Coast (Orange) Network
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Portland
Seattle
Spokane

Mountain Group
Denver
Salt Lake City

The above arrangement is what is commonly known as the National Broadcasting Company national hook-up, and figuring population within a radius of 100 miles of each station it embraces 95 per cent of our urban population, 69.1 per cent rural population, 83 per cent of total population, and 88.5 per cent of all radio homes in the United States.

Exports of Canned Foods in January

As compared with January, 1929, exports of canned meat during January of the present year very nearly doubled. On the other hand, there was a considerable decline in shipments of salmon and condensed and evaporated milk. Vegetables fell off slightly and there was a very slight gain in canned fruits. Sardine shipments were somewhat higher than in January a year ago. The shipments of the individual articles as shown by statistics of the Department of Commerce were as follows:

Articles	January, 1929		January, 1930	
	Pounds	*Value*	*Pounds*	*Value*
Canned meats, total	999,982	$373,476	2,013,206	$697,771
Beef	102,086	39,882	805,878	100,636
Pork	392,750	230,123	1,422,558	486,783
Sausage	190,738	66,623	117,390	40,428
Other	114,388	36,848	167,380	69,924
Canned vegetables, total	6,314,296	618,146	5,844,365	603,605
Asparagus	1,471,951	231,540	1,527,961	241,007
Baked beans, and pork and beans	569,998	48,177	495,509	41,372
Corn	391,278	44,499	770,307	78,196
Peas	583,578	56,873	674,092	55,199
Soups	1,158,036	117,038	730,130	81,626
Tomatoes	513,405	36,490	348,871	24,814
Other	1,426,055	83,527	1,299,195	81,391
Condensed milk	3,431,620	538,019	2,623,224	439,143
Evaporated milk	6,020,630	615,591	5,839,460	565,781
Canned fruits, total	32,117,159	2,981,830	28,145,138	2,935,753
Apples and applesauce	2,952,118	147,335	1,662,365	98,356
Apricots	2,367,547	226,331	2,848,567	262,235
Cherries	193,785	32,863	105,747	17,786
Fruits for salad	2,150,063	317,797	2,031,066	322,649
Loganberries	651,284	60,375	132,811	12,762
Other berries			172,582	21,625
Peaches	10,814,224	875,371	8,451,208	855,139
Pears	7,811,853	750,938	4,340,421	535,925
Pineapple	3,915,854	383,459	7,306,186	713,918
Prunes	259,847	26,786	125,010	16,375
Other	1,000,384	110,175	987,225	98,785
Salmon	6,343,755	1,126,069	4,342,108	800,100
Sardines	11,372,965	852,842	11,788,494	818,124

Imports of Canned Tomatoes and Tomato Paste

Imports of canned tomatoes during January, 1930, amounted to 8,939,178 pounds valued at $427,845, a decrease of 2,645,677 pounds in volume and $264,068 in value, as compared with the corresponding month last year. On the other hand, imports of tomato paste in January, amounting to 1,635,369 pounds valued at $129,824, showed an increase of 776,680 pounds in volume and $12,732 in value.

Specifications for Corrugated Fibre Containers

R. C. Fyfe, Chairman of the Western Classification Committee, Chicago, recently brought to the attention of the Association the fact that there is a tendency among shippers of canned foods to use corrugated fibre shipping containers which do not comply, so far as the Mullen test is concerned, with the

specifications recommended by a Special Container Committee of this Association in March, 1926. These recommendations were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors of this Association and by Committees representing food distributors' organizations.

The following is quoted from Mr. Fyfe's letter:

"It is hardly necessary, I believe, to direct your attention to difficulties which were experienced prior to the adoption of the 220 and 250 minimum test regulations by your organization, and we are fully convinced that any of your members going to the lower test boxes will create the condition which was corrected in March, 1926."

This subject was brought up at a meeting of the canners' Conference Committee with committees representing distributors, held in Chicago, January 24th, 1930, and the committees unanimously reaffirmed their previous recommendation that the specifications of the Special Container Committee be followed and requested that the Western Classification Committee and fibre box manufacturers be so informed.

The Association then requested Mr. G. R. Browder, Manager of the Paper Board Industries Association, to call this to the attention of the manufacturers of corrugated fibre shipping containers. To this request Mr. Browder replied in part:

"For your information, we made this matter a special topic for report at our Association meeting at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, January 23rd, at which time all of our members were reminded of the action of your Special Container Committee meeting in Chicago, March 31, 1926, and all of our members were urged to make every effort to hold to the standards recommended by your committee.

"We had some reports that canners were in some instances asking for prices and placing orders for boxes testing 200 pounds and possibly as low as 175 pounds as authorized in Consolidated Classification No. 5, Rule 41, Section 2, page 23, but we assume that your members * * * will discontinue buying such boxes and will follow the recommendation of your Special Container Committee."

The Special Container Committee's recommendations referred to in the above correspondence are as follows:

"Where gross weight exceeds 35 pounds but does not exceed 50 pounds, Cady or Mullen test of boxes to be not less than 220 pounds per square inch; where gross weight exceeds 50 pounds

but does not exceed 65 pounds, Cady of Mullen test of boxes to be not less than 250 pounds per square inch.

"In purchasing boxes canners should require that they meet or exceed these requirements, and that packages be so made as to hold the contents securely in place after the package has been properly sealed."

Truck Crop Markets

The first three cars of asparagus moved from the delta of California during the week ended February 22, and the lettuce season opened in South Carolina. Acreage of asparagus in California this season is increased slightly over that of last year and is the largest in the past six years. South Carolina also reports an increase but Georgia a slight decrease. The southeastern shipping season will soon begin.

Grapefruit movement held around 615 cars, compared with 825 last season. Florida increased to 575 cars of grapefruit, but Texas shipped only half a dozen. After this time last year, Texas still marketed about 400 cars. Forwardings of oranges increased slightly to 1,810 cars, or one-fourth less than the corresponding record for 1929. Florida was credited with 980 and California with 830 cars of oranges.

Green-pea shipments from the Imperial Valley of California jumped to 80 cars, while the West Coast of Mexico sent 150 carloads to United States markets.

Spinach movement from Texas totaled 445 cars, with light shipments from South Carolina and California.

Western apple shipments decreased to 810 and eastern movement to 545 cars. Shipments are one-fourth lighter than a year ago. Washington decreased to 670 cars for the week; New York forwarded 210, and the Virginias 265.

Florida string-bean shipments increased to 120 cars. Florida acreage for spring shipment was increased greatly this year to more than 22,000 acres, and southern Texas may have the high total of 6,350 acres. Recent rains have caused some damage in southern Florida, which made buyers reluctant to take cars.

Florida strawberry movement increased to 82 cars.

Forwardings of Florida tomatoes increased greatly to 210 cars for the week, but were still far short of last winter's corresponding figure. Imports from Mexico jumped to 365 cars, while 25 came from Cuba and about 10 from the Bahamas.

Combined movement of 23 fruits and vegetables increased only a little to 15,775 cars, and was yet 1,200 short of last season's total during this period. Potatoes, apples and oranges comprised about half the total volume.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Feb. 16-22 1930	Feb. 9-15 1930	Feb. 17-23 1929	Total this season to Feb. 22	Total last season to Feb. 23	Total last season
Apples, total	1,338	1,643	1,836	88,746	115,491	127,530
Eastern states	546	621	676	45,331	57,852	62,708
Western states	812	1,022	1,160	43,415	57,639	64,822
Carrots:						
1930 season	277	273	256	3,771	3,174	11,557
1929 season	63	70	53	11,557	7,264	7,455
Cabbage:						
1930 season	688	519	515	3,532	4,344	43,617
1929 season	91	148	113	43,817	39,534	39,804
Cauliflower	342	470	260	6,769	6,696	9,889
Green peas:						
Domestic	79	15	3	572	474	5,163
Imports	149	172	103	1,903	991	1,351
Mixed vegetables:						
Domestic	710	685	839	5,007	3,642	32,481
Imports	32	17	14	173	115	218
Pears	98	127	56	20,392	24,048	24,439
Spinach	462	443	367	4,606	5,311	10,260
Tomatoes:						
Domestic	208	130	371	685	2,113	31,928
Imports	398	281	326	2,327	5,415	6,261

Business Conditions

The dollar volume of trade during the week ended February 22, as indicated by check payments, was greater than in the preceding week but showed a decline from the same week of 1929, according to the weekly statement of the Department of Commerce.

The general index of wholesale prices showed a further decline during the week, being lower also than in the same period of the preceding year.

Bank loans and discounts at the end of the week were lower than at the end of the previous week but showed a gain over a year ago. Prices for stocks were lower than in either the preceding week or the same week of 1929. Business failures during the week were more numerous than in either the preceding week or the corresponding period of 1929.

Movement of commodities as indicated by car loadings for the latest reported week showed an increase over the preceding week, but a reduction from the corresponding week last year.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ended February 15	891,897	319,640	239,523	332,434
Preceding week	886,581	308,669	241,426	336,486
Corresponding week, 1929	957,498	338,418	248,570	370,510
Corresponding week, 1928	888,586	321,999	249,172	317,415

California Fig Pack in 1929

The California pack of figs in tins, all grades and sizes, in 1929 amounted to 223,857 cases as compared with 218,544 cases in 1928, according to figures compiled by the Canners League of California and the Southern California Canners Association. The pack of figs in glass in 1929 was 325,045 pounds, as compared with 314,626 pounds in 1928.

Navy to Buy Canned Mince Meat

The Navy Department is advertising for bids on canned mince meat to be opened March 25th. The announcement requests bids on 15,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 33,000 pounds at Brooklyn, and 57,000 pounds at Mare Island. Copies of schedule 2932 on which to submit bids may be obtained from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington.

Part of Florida Released from Fruit Fly Quarantine

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced the release of what is known as "West Florida" from the restrictions as to the movement of host fruits and vegetables which apply to the remainder of the State of Florida on account of the Mediterranean fruit fly.

The area so released constitutes all that part of the State lying west of the Ocklockonee River and embracing the counties of Walton, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Escambia, Bay, Washington, Holmes, Gulf, Calhoun, Jackson, Franklin, Liberty, and Gadsden. This part of Florida produces Satsumas, blueberries, and in addition there are smaller scattered plantings of peaches, plums, grapes, pears and other fruits. There is no commercial production of host vegetables in the region.

West Florida has been thoroughly inspected repeatedly and no Mediterranean fruit fly infestations have been found within it at any time. The Department of Agriculture therefore feels that the western section of Florida is in the same status as to the possibility of being infested with the Mediterranean fruit fly as are other Southern States, and, that in the absence of any evidence of infestation within the area, quarantine restrictions can justifiably be removed.

Provision is made in the new order under which the same prompt suppressive action can be taken in that part of the State as in the remainder should any fruit fly infestation be discovered there.

Japanese Beetle Quarantined Area Enlarged

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced that the Japanese beetle quarantine regulations have been revised, effective March 1, 1930. The most important changes are the extension of the regulated area to include one county in Massachusetts as well as certain new territory in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia, and the division of the regulated area into generally and lightly infested areas.

Restrictions on the interstate movement of farm products will apply to the generally infested area but will not affect the movement of farm products from the lightly infested areas. Regulations governing the interstate shipment of nursery and ornamental stock, and of sand, soil, earth, peat, compost, and manure, will apply to shipments from the generally infested area to the lightly infested areas as well as to shipments from either to points entirely outside the regulated areas.

Asiatic Beetle Quarantine Removed

The Federal plant quarantine on account of the Asiatic beetle and the Asiatic garden beetle has been removed by the Secretary of Agriculture, effective on March 1. The quarantined area consisted of the District of Columbia, the State of New Jersey, and portions of Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

As a result of the observations of the past year, the Department of Agriculture has reached the conclusion that a continuation of Federal restrictions on the interstate movement of nursery products and soil, to prevent the spread of these insects, is not justified by the information at hand.

Forum Will Publish "Other Side"

In an article by Marcia Clarke in the Forum for February, serious reflections were made upon the wholesomeness and quality of canned foods, and the Association protested to the editor of the Forum against the publication of an article of this kind, which was inaccurate in its statement of fact and harmful to the canning industry. The editor of the Forum, Mr. Henry Goddard Leach, has written that he plans to publish the Association's letter criticizing Miss Clarke's article in a forthcoming issue of the Forum, stating that "it seems to me an adequate reply to the author." Mr. Leach further wrote:

"Miss Clarke intended her article to be humorous rather than scientific. She discussed the philosophy of the American

stomach rather than the analysis of the vitamins contained in canned products.

"We do not pretend, as editors, to argue the relative food values of canned tomatoes and those 'fresh from the vine.' It has always seemed to our untrained dietetic minds that canned foods were intended to be used when fresh foods were not available. Miss Clarke has protested against the American habit of saving time at the needless cost of our digestive tracts.

"Miss Clarke of course exaggerated when she spoke of 'canned garbage' in driving home her argument for less haste and more care in the preparation of our meals. Canned foods have become a necessity rather than a luxury in America, and Miss Clarke's is a voice crying in the wilderness, reminding us that natural food is at least as good as canned.

"Her article is not intended to be, nor do we feel that it is, a serious danger to the canning industries of the country. For my own part I expect to continue the regular use of canned products.

"We have received numerous private letters protesting in behalf of the container, and we will publish also extracts from these."

Press Service Corrects Erroneous Report

A number of Eastern newspapers recently carried a report of an outbreak of food poisoning in New Jersey, the resulting illness and death being attributed to canned tomatoes.

Upon investigation, the Association found that the State Department of Health had taken an active interest in the outbreak, and examination of some of the foods eaten prior to the outbreak disclosed the fact that a poisonous insecticide had been used in one of the foods by mistake for baking powder.

The matter was taken up immediately with the press service that sent out the original story. They acknowledged that their investigation confirmed the Association's findings and immediately sent out a statement calling attention to the findings of the Health Department and regretting the publication of the erroneous report.

Sled-Type Stalk Shaver Devised for Use in Corn-Borer Clean-up

One of the methods of controlling the European corn borer is to clean the fields by raking and burning the dead stalks left after harvesting the crop. Before the raking can be done satisfactorily the stalks must be broken or cut loose at the ground surface. When conditions are ideal, which is usually for only

a few days during the season when stalks and ground are frozen hard, a satisfactory job of breaking may be done by dragging a railroad rail or heavy pole across the field. To enable a better job to be done under a wider range of conditions, the Bureau of Public Roads of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Ohio State University, has developed a sled-type stalk shaver which may be made in the farm shop.

Complete instructions for building the device are given in Miscellaneous Publication 69-M, "Construction of a Sled-Type Cornstalk Shaver," just issued by the Department of Agriculture. The sled shaver works best when the ground is not frozen and may be used in the spring just before raking and burning the stalks.

Copies of the publication may be obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., as long as there is a supply available for free distribution.

Japanese Production of Canned Peas

According to information secured from the Japan Canned Goods Association and forwarded by the American trade commissioner's office at Tokyo, Japanese production of canned green peas in 1927 amounted to 80,000 cases valued at 760,000 yen (about $360,000); 1928, 85,000 cases valued at 850,000 yen, and 1929 (estimated), 100,000 cases valued at 950,000 yen. It is understood that approximately 95 per cent of the total production is consumed in Japan, exports being very small. However, it is known that during 1929 a few cases were shipped to Hawaii as samples. It appears that copper sulphate is used in the preparation of Japanese canned peas and consequently they are not admitted to all countries.

South African Revised Pure Food Regulations

The text of the revised pure food regulations of the Union of South Africa has been received in the Department of Commerce, and interested American firms may secure information regarding it upon application to the Foreign Tariffs Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Italian Prepared Milk Market

Italy is on an exporting rather than an importing basis in so far as prepared milk is concerned, and there exists little possibility in the Italian market for the extensive sale of American milk products, according to the American trade commissioner at Rome.

Mexican Catsup Competes With American Product

A catsup of seemingly good quality is now manufactured by the Compania Empacadora del Noroeste, at Ciudad Obregon, according to information received in the Department of Commerce from the American Consul at Guaymas, Sonora.

Although only recently placed on the market, this product threatens to make serious inroads into the relatively important market on the West Coast of Mexico, which has heretofore been the exclusive domain of American manufacturers of catsup.

The company mentioned is also offering canned whole tomatoes and tomato puree, but there has been little sale of these goods of American or other origin.

Present wholesale prices f.o.b. Ciudad Obregon, of the tomatoes, catsup, and puree are: Catsup, case of 24 bottles (16-ounce), $6.11; catsup, case of 36 bottles (8-ounce), $6.58; whole tomatoes, case of 24 No. 2 cans, $3.76; whole tomatoes, case of 24 No. 2½ cans, $4.70; tomato puree, case of 24 No. 2 cans, $2.82; tomato puree, case of 48 No. 1 cans, $3.76.

Polish Import Contingent for American Preserved Fish

The Polish Foreign Office has advised the American Legation in Warsaw that an import contingent of 50 metric tons (about 55 short tons) per quarter for the calendar year 1930 has been granted for preserved fish of American origin.

Review of British Canned Food Trade Available

A review of the British trade in canned fruits, milk and fish in 1929, based on a recent report received in the Department of Commerce from the American trade commissioner at London, has just been released by the Foodstuffs Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce at Washington, D. C., as Special Circular No. 304. The progress of the domestic food canning industry in the United Kingdom during 1929, import statistics, and notes on the trade in each particular item of importance are among the points covered in this report. Interested American concerns may secure copies of this special circular upon application either directly to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce in Washington, D. C., or through any of the district or cooperative offices of the Bureau.

New Regulations for Labeling Condensed Milk in Spain

A Spanish royal order (No. 1516) of December 20, 1929, provides that condensed milk, with or without sugar and con-

taining not less than 8 per cent of fat, which appears on the Spanish market after February 1, 1930, must specify on its containers "Con toda su grasa" (with all its fat), in an easily visible manner, according to the American commercial attache at Madrid. In case the fat content of the condensed milk is less than 8 per cent, the containers must specify the per cent of fat contained in the milk.

The total of solid substances (lactose, fat, albumenoids and mineral substances) of the milk with its cream must not be less than 25 per cent.

Bulletin Issued on Confectionery Distribution

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the U. S. Department of Commerce has issued a report entitled "Confectionery Distribution in the United States." The bulletin covers distribution methods, consumption, market potentialities, sales expense factors, cost accounting, and foreign trade in confectionery. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, at 10 cents each.

Publications of Interest to Canners

Blueberries.—The results of an economic study of 239 blueberry farms in Washington and Hancock counties, Maine, are presented in Bulletin 351 issued by the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station at Orono. The report covers such features as capital, receipts, expenses, cost of product, and returns in producing blueberries, and there are presented statistics on blueberries sold for canning. The average amount sold annually for canning during the five years ending with 1928 was 145,141 bushels, and the returns from the sales averaged $533,883 annually.

Preferences and practices in buying vegetables.—In a schedule used by the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station at Kingston, to obtain information regarding preferences and practices in buying vegetables in Providence, one of the questions asked was "What part of your food cost goes for fresh vegetables?" An analysis of the replies to this question and to others is given in Bulletin 220, issued by the Experiment Station, and the canning industry will be interested to know that 112 answers to this question showed that purchases of fresh vegetables averaged 31.3 per cent of the food costs. The inquiry was made through 4,000 questionnaires, and personal interviews

with 21 housewives and 30 retailers. An interesting feature of the study was an inquiry as to how often vegetables were bought between the May-November period as compared with the December-April period. The information developed is presented separately for each of the 12 products covered in the study.

Root rot of peas.—Experiments at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station on the reduction in yield of peas due to root rot caused by the fungus Aphanomyces euteiches and discussed in the 49th annual report of the Station, indicate that rot root has greater effect on the production of dried matter than on the height or general appearance of the plant, and that root rot may be causing much greater damage than is suspected in those fields where peas show a good general appearance in spite of infection. A controlled experiment revealed that rows of peas artificially infected with root rot showed an average decrease of 20.4 per cent in seed weight and 21.3 per cent in straw weight, as compared with uninfected rows. This was despite the fact that in general appearance the two lots looked alike up to the time of harvesting.

South African fruit industry.—The dried fruit industry and trade of South Africa are described in Trade Information Bulletin No. 676 just issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The bulletin outlines the history, present status and prospects of the fruit industry in South Africa, and should be of especial interest to American exporters whose products enter into competition with South African fruits in foreign markets.

Strawberries.—The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster has issued a 50-page illustrated bulletin on the strawberry in Ohio, covering the matter of soil preparation, planting, tillage, harvesting, etc., and giving some attention to the subject of varieties. There is also a list of 28 references to other publications on the subject.

Tests of cannery tomatoes.—The results of three years' tests of varieties of cannery tomatoes have been published by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station at College Park, Md., in a 22-page bulletin.

Varieties of fruits.—In bulletin No. 222 of the West Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station at Morgantown is presented a discussion of the varieties of tree fruits found, after years of observation, to be adapted to conditions in West Virginia. The bulletin discusses apples, peaches, cherries, pears and plums.

Standards for Cannery Spinach

United States standards for cannery spinach (1930) have been issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as follows:

U. S. No. 1 shall consist of spinach which is free from decay, grass, weeds, yellow leaves, roots, and worms, and from damage caused by seedstems, seedbuds, coarse stalks, wood, muck chips, dirt, or other foreign material.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper handling, the following tolerances shall be permitted for grade defects:

For decay, grass, small weeds, and yellow leaves, not more than fifteen (15) pieces are permitted in a one hundred (100) ounce sample.

For damage by wood, muck chips, or other hard foreign material, no tolerance is permitted.

For roots, large weeds, and damage by seedstems, seedbuds, coarse stalks, dirt or other foreign material, not more than five (5) ounces are permitted in a one hundred (100) ounce sample.

No tolerance is permitted for worms.

U. S. No. 2 shall consist of spinach which meets all the requirements of U. S. No. 1 grade except that the following tolerances shall be permitted for grade defects:

For decay, grass, small weeds, and yellow leaves, not more than forty (40) pieces are permitted in a one hundred (100) ounce sample.

For damage by wood, muck chips, or other hard foreign material, not more than one (1) piece over one-half inch in length is permitted in a one hundred (100) ounce sample.

For roots, large weeds, and damage by seedstems, seedbuds, coarse stalks, dirt, or other foreign material, not more than ten (10) ounces are permitted in a one hundred (100) ounce sample.

No tolerance is permitted for worms.

U. S. No. 3 shall consist of spinach which is free from worms but which fails to meet the remaining requirements of either of the foregoing grades.

Unclassified shall consist of spinach which contains worms.

Canned Milk Market

The market situation on evaporated milk showed considerable improvement during February. In spite of the firmer attitude on the part of dealers, stocks were reported as moving into consuming channels in a satisfactory manner. As a result, stocks of both the advertised and lesser-known brands are estimated to be greatly reduced.

Production during January, while 1.1 per cent lighter than for the same month a year ago, showed an increase of 9.8 per cent when compared with the previous month.

Total stocks of evaporated milk on February 1, while 17 per cent lighter than a month ago, were still 28 per cent heavier than a year ago and approximately 75 per cent heavier than the five-year average holdings. During January 35,740,000 pounds of evaporated milk disappeared into trade channels, in comparison with 26,274,000 pounds during the same period a year ago, 18,000,000 pounds during last December, and the five-year average trade output of 20,616,000 pounds.

Condensed milk markets failed to show the strength which developed on evaporated milk markets during February. Stocks on February 1 were 168 per cent heavier than a year ago, but were 8 per cent lighter than on January 1. The apparent trade output during January was 12 per cent lighter than for the same period a year ago, but was 75.9 per cent heavier than for the previous month. Production during January, while about 21 per cent heavier than for December, was just slightly lighter than last year. In the face of only a slightly reduced make, and a 12 per cent decrease in the trade output, the large relative increase in stocks is not surprising.

Canned Codfish and Haddock Bids Sought

The Navy Department is asking for bids on a total of 54,000 pounds of canned codfish and haddock, 7,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 17,000 pounds at Brooklyn, and 30,000 pounds at Hampton Roads. The bids are to be opened on April 1, and copies of schedule 2935 on which to submit bids may be obtained from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.